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SPORTS LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS



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Record-breaking Lafayette City Meet

Springbrook Hogs are Victorious Again
... continued from page 1



LMYA Boys 7-8 Relay teammates (left to right) Reider Martinsen, Alec Baker, Jack Larsen and Christopher Rogers Photo Lisa Diritto

Springbrook girl's 13-14 high point winner, Nora Vance also claimed a record at City Meet. Vance led off the Medley Relay with backstroke. Vance, along with teammates Brooke Aiello, Kathryn Hill and Kate Avery won with a record time of 1:58.17.

Led by head coach Molly Quinn, Springbrook took home yet another first place trophy. "Growing up swimming the Lafayette City Meet has always been a personal highlight of my swim season; we are very lucky to swim in a City Meet with such a fun atmosphere filled with good natured competition. It is especially gratifying to have Springbrook perform so strongly my first year as Head Coach. Every team swam exceptionally well this year and I am extremely proud of the effort our team put forth last weekend," said Quinn.

LMYA surely had one of the most celebrated second place finishes in meet history. Led by co-head coaches Marc Cavallero and Jeff Miller, LMYA swimmers drew

their share of constant, deafening cheers from the stands. "I am very proud of the team and their performance at City Meet. The kids have been working extremely hard on their stroke technique and conditioning in practices and it is rewarding for them to swim so well. The mid-season racing experience they get at the City Meet is extremely valuable for the end of the season when the team peaks for league championships and the County meet," said Cavallero.

The LMYA's Boys 7-8 Medley Relay was a record setter. Teammates Jack Larsen, Reider Martinsen, Alec Baker and Christopher Rogers beat out Rancho Colorados for a meet record time of 1:12.88. The foursome went on to break a 30-year-old pool record in the free relay with a time of 1:02.71. When asked how he felt about the win, Alec Baker replied, "Awesome!"

Rancho Colorados finished third with a number of high finishes that resulted in major points for the

team. Rancho's 9-10 Boys boasted an on-the-edge-of-your-seats win in the 200-yard free relay with Jon Bindi, Joey Berzins, Cole Lauritzen and Brad Robison with 2:10.61. Sun Valley came in second with a time of 2:10.64.

(Note: Many other records were set at this year's City Meet but unfortunately we cannot include all of them; congratulations to everyone on a race well swum!)

Final Team Scores:

- Springbrook 1313.5
- LMYA 820.5
- Rancho Colorados 721
- Sun Valley 683
- Las Trampas 601
- Oakwood 71

High Point Winners

- 6 & Under Girls
Caitlin Smith, LMYA, 28
- 6&Under Boys
Dillan Thoms, Las Trampas, 33
- 7/8 Girls
Jackie Geannacopulos, LMYA, 31
- 7/8 Boys
Alec Baker, LMYA, 31
Beck Jurasius, Sun Valley, 31
- 9/10 Girls
Caroline Walsh, Sun Valley, 33
- 9/10 Boys
Sean McKenna, Sun Valley, 33
- 11/12 Girls
Helene Hollidge, LMYA, 33
- 11/12 Boys
Nicholas Inserra, Springbrook, 33
- 13/14 Girls
Nora Vance, Springbrook, 33
- 13/14 Boys
Brendan Foster, Springbrook, 31
- 15-18 Girls
Natalie Chan, Springbrook, 31
- 15-18 Boys
Nat Boone, Springbrook, 31

More than a Fan

Lamorinda season ticket holders feel like family at SMC basketball games

By Mikaela Cowles



Dr. and Mrs. Howard Rose of Moraga "It's more than being a fan. It's family." Photo Andy Scheck

As Saint Mary's basketball programs have taken off, there are few in Lamorinda who are unaware of the teams. The men's program has received ample coverage with 29 ESPN televised games during last season alone. With name-worthy players like Olympian Patty Mills and the women's Louella Tomlinson, first in the nation in single season blocks, McKeon Pavilion has become the place to be.

The increased success has not ruined what makes this small school's games so unique. Men and women's season ticket holders, John and Linda Higgins, say "It's the same quality basketball without the big time atmosphere."

With easy access and competitively low prices, Saint Mary's basketball offers locals the chance to become part of the college community. Dr. and Mrs. Howard

Rose, season ticket holders of 35 years say, "It's more than being a fan. It's family."

Before the game, fans greet their neighbors with chit-chat and smiles. During the game their hearts rise and fall with the team and after the court is littered with fans and players talking over the game and catching up. The Roses' say, "our closest friends have been through Saint Mary's."

Raising their kids by the sweaty court, they firmly believe in the basketball community and its impact on the youth and the surrounding area. The positive influence of quality role models, who are easily accessible to children, makes Saint Mary's games a perfect family outing. The Higgins' were the first women's season ticket holders, and as John puts it, "I didn't even know women played basketball. What better thing is there for a father and daughter to do together?"

Many fans have become integral parts of player's lives. The Higgins went so far as to house one of the women's basketball players when she had finished playing and was in grad school.

Both the Higgins and Roses stress profusely the quality of people who are part of the Saint Mary's family, both fans and players alike.

Local Boy

Qualifies for US Karate Team

Submitted by Tom Westernoff and Pearl Asian



Hazemach shows off his two gold medals, one for Kobudo and the other for Kata Photo provided

The 2009 Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) National Karate Championships proved to be rewarding for a local athlete. Hazemach won two gold medals, one in Kobudo (weapon) and the other in Kata (form), at the event held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. With the wins, Hazemach secured a place on the Junior World Karate

team and will represent the USA/AAU National Karate Team which will compete in the World Karate Competition in October in either Italy or Japan.

The local product trains at The Karate & Fitness Place USA under the direction of Sensei Tom Westernoff. Hazemach will be a freshman next year at Woodside Priory.

Send sports stories and ideas to:

sportsdesk@lamorinda

weekly.com

or call 925-377-0977



Connor Mattox and Conor MacKinnon received Springbrook's Spirit Award along with Brennan Quinn (not pictured) Photo Tatia MacKinnon

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